

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following paragraph in the application:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application 60/252,269, filed November 20, 2000.

Please replace paragraph [0061] with the following paragraph in the application:

Experiment 3

[0061] A third series of experiments was performed to examine the ability of lanthanide-macrocylic complexes of the general formula Ln(1)^{3+} to enhance MRI contrast by MT. FIGUREs 8 and 9 ~~7(21)~~ demonstrate image contrast obtained using aqueous solutions of 62.5 mM Eu(1)^{3+} and Nd(1)^{3+} , respectively. The inner vial contains 62.5 mM Eu(1)^{3+} or Nd(1)^{3+} at neutral pH, while the outer vial is pure water. T_1 -weighted spin-echo images (TR/TE = 500 /18 ms, 256×256 data matrix) were obtained at about 22°C and a field strength of 4.7 T. MT was achieved by applying RF irradiation for 1 s, with a power of 16 db by using a 2.5 cm surface coil. FIGURE 8 shows images obtained with no saturation (left, nosat), saturation at +9800 Hz (middle, Satp) at the resonance frequency of Eu^{3+} -bound water, saturation at -9800 Hz (right, satn), and the corresponding difference images. FIGURE 9 shows analogous images for a phantom with no saturation (left, nosat), saturation at -6400 Hz (middle, Satp) the resonance frequency of Nd^{3+} -bound water, saturation at +6400 (right, satn), and the corresponding difference images. The inner vial contains 62.5 mM Nd(1)^{3+} at neutral pH, while the outer vial is pure water. The irradiation duration time was 2 s, with a power of 41 db by using a 2.5 cm surface coil.